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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 25X1A6a

**SUBJECT** Deportations from GDR. Stassfurt

## References

DIST. 2 January 194

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## SUPPLEMENT

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## ORIGIN

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1. The BMW plant at Jassfurt was entirely dismantled (no date given). During the evacuation of BMW personnel, the Russians appeared anxious to have dependents accompany the male deportees and, in some instances, distant automobile trips were made to bring absent relatives.

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2. A German railroad worker assigned to evacuation transport duty states that the trains are under military guard only as far as the Polish border. However, a car leader is appointed from among the deportees, who, along with the rest of the passengers, is held responsible for individual escapes.

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3. The railroad administration believes that the total of deported persons will run to 70,000. This figure is arrived at on the basis of Soviet requirements of 1,000 engines with a crew of eleven men each. It is claimed that German railroad personnel are used on normal German-gauge lines extending to about 400 kilometers beyond West Litovak. Since the trip is to last four to six weeks, the destination is believed to be the Ural region.

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Comment: The above paragraph appears to be somewhat confused in the original report. Train brigades usually amount to twelve men. No confirmation has been received of various rumors that German-gauge lines exist beyond Grest Nitovsk. Another report, dated 21-26 October 1946, and evaluated [redacted] also stated that train brigade men believed that deportees routed through RSD (Reichsbahndirektion-RR Administration Division) Cottbus were destined for the Goral area.

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4. The following is an excerpt from a letter which a high-ranking BMW specialist among the deportees wrote to his wife on 23 October 1946:
- "I have already written to you from Unseberg that our departure took place under compulsion. The Russians show a great deal of consideration, and high-ranking Russian officers go back and forth in person and distribute soup and other food; they even complain that we are eating too little. We received this morning two large food packages and a bag of flour, as well as 750 cigarettes. The higher-ranking personnel is travelling in a third-class car of a D-train; every family married or engaged couple has its compartment. Of course, I have an entire compartment to myself. I have just learned that here in Dessau 900 families have been taken.

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"I shall try to have this letter mailed by somebody walking along the platform. I must tell you that we travel under military guard and are not allowed to leave the train; however, we are not prevented from mailing letters.

"The families travelling with us have recovered from their first fright and are again in good spirits. I did not want you to be fetched by a Commando, but prefer to survey the situation first before asking you to join me. I shall call for you if the conditions should turn out to be better than in Berlin; however, if they are unbearable, it will become necessary for us to remain separated. We just learned today that there will be many thousand German families there. We have been told that we are going to be paid well and that we shall be able to send money to our relatives. We are allowed to write letters, to receive and to mail packages. Although nothing has been mentioned about our destination, it is rumored that we will be taken to a place near Moscow.

"I advise you to get in touch with the military authorities in Moscow in case the political situation should deteriorate, i.e., if an evacuation of Berlin should become necessary. I am sure that assistance would be given to you on account of my position. In case our mail should be censored, I want you to remember that I shall describe conditions, if satisfactory, as such; however, if I should write in an exuberant manner about them, it would mean that they are unsatisfactory."

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